

IN THE CLAIMS:

Please amend Claims 14, 16, and 18, as indicated below. The following is a complete listing of claims and replaces all prior versions and listings of claims in the present application:

Claims 1-13 (canceled).

Claim 14 (currently amended): A driving method for a CMOS type image pickup device having pixels each including a photoelectric conversion unit[[.]] and ~~having~~ a transfer MOS transistor for transferring photoelectric conversion signal charges generated by [[said]] ~~the~~ photoelectric conversion unit to a floating diffusion region at an input terminal of an amplifier element, wherein the image pickup device includes signal lines ~~outputting the~~ configured to output an amplified signal to a capacitor arranged at each signal line,[[.]] the driving method comprising, for a pixel:

a driving step comprising at least a first and a second transfer step, [[said]] the first transfer step being performed for applying a pulse to [[the]] a transfer switch to transfer a part of [[the]] signal charges generated during one accumulation period by [[said]] a photoelectric conversion unit to [[the]] a floating diffusion region, and [[said]] the second transfer step being performed, subsequently to [[said]] the first transfer step, for applying a pulse to the transfer switch to transfer ~~the other part~~ a remaining part of the signal charges generated during the same one accumulation period by [[said]] the photoelectric conversion unit to the

floating diffusion region, before reading out a signal from the pixel to ~~[[the]]~~ a corresponding signal line,

wherein no reset of the floating diffusion region is performed between the first and second transfer steps of the signal charges.

Claim 15 (canceled).

Claim 16 (currently amended): The driving method according to Claim 14,

wherein the driving step includes a step of resetting ~~[[the]]~~ an input terminal of ~~[[the]]~~ an amplifier element and outputting a reset signal generated from the amplifier element upon the resetting, and a step of outputting a photoelectric conversion signal from the amplifier element, and

wherein the driving method further comprises a step of subtracting the reset signal from the photoelectric conversion signal.

Claim 17 (previously presented): The driving method according to Claim 14, wherein the photoelectric conversion signal and the reset signal include correlated signals.

Claim 18 (currently amended): A driving method for a CMOS type image pickup device having pixels each including a photoelectric conversion unit~~[[,]]~~ and ~~having~~ a transfer MOS transistor for transferring photoelectric conversion signal charges generated by ~~[[said]]~~ the photoelectric conversion unit to a floating diffusion region at an input terminal of an amplifier element,

wherein the image pickup device includes signal lines ~~outputting configured to output~~ the amplified signal to a capacitor arranged at each signal line, the driving method comprising for a pixel:

a driving step comprising at least a first and a second transfer step, ~~[[said]]~~ the first transfer step being performed for applying a pulse to ~~[[the]]~~ a transfer switch to transfer an already accumulated substantial part of ~~[[the]]~~ signal charges generated during one accumulation period by ~~[[said]]~~ a photoelectric conversion unit to ~~[[the]]~~ a floating diffusion region, and ~~[[said]]~~ the second transfer step being performed, subsequently to the first transfer step, for applying a pulse to the transfer switch to transfer ~~[[the]]~~ a remaining part of the signal charges generated during the same one accumulation period by ~~[[said]]~~ the photoelectric conversion unit to the floating diffusion region, before reading out a signal from the pixel to ~~[[the]]~~ a corresponding signal line,

wherein no reset of the floating diffusion region is performed between the first and second transfer ~~[[step]]~~ steps of the signal charges, and, during a time period between the first and second transfer steps, there is no effective quantity of light incident on the photoelectric conversion unit.